

#### **Suffolk County Legislature**

# Legislator Al Krupski



#### **News from the 1st District**

Summer/Fall 2016

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# Legislative Committee Meetings to be Held in Riverhead During the Week of August 29

For the second time this year, <u>Legislative Committee Meetings</u> will be held in the County Seat of Riverhead. After advocating for this change since first being elected to the Suffolk County Legislature in 2011, and with the support of Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory and South Fork Legislator Bridget Fleming, Legislator Krupski was successful in negotiating with his colleagues who agreed to hold two cycles of committee meetings in Riverhead each year.

By holding meetings in the County Seat, East End residents are given more access to their elected officials – anyone can address the Legislature for three minutes during the public portion on any topic or on an agenda item. To learn more about how to speak before the Suffolk County Legislature, please click <a href="heep-top-specific left">heep-top-specific left</a>.

The Committee Meetings will be held in the Riverhead Legislative Auditorium at the Evan K. Griffing Building located at 300 Center Drive, Riverhead. Please click here for directions.

The Committee Meeting schedule is as follows:

#### Monday, August 29, 2016

10:00 am: Environment, Planning & Agriculture 12:30 pm: Seniors & Consumer Protection

2:00 pm: Public Works, Transportation & Energy

Wednesday, August 31, 2016

10:00 am: Government Operations, Personnel,

Information Tech & Housing

12:30 pm: Parks & Recreation 2:00pm: Economic Development

#### Tuesday, August 30, 2016

9:30 am: Veterans

10:30 am: Budget & Finance

12:30 pm: Education & Human Services

#### Thursday, September 1, 2016

9:30 am: Public Safety 1:00 pm: Ways & Means

2:00 pm: Health

To view committee agendas (usually available five days before each meeting), please click <u>here</u> and then click on the individual committees to view agendas and minutes from previous meetings.

Items which may be considered during this cycle include a <u>Local Law to</u>

<u>Reduce the Use of Carryout Bags</u>, which would require Suffolk County vendors to charge five cents for plastic or paper bags, legislation re-establishing the <u>Tick Advisory Committee</u> and several appointments to the <u>Council of Environmental Review</u>.

Al Krupski Suffolk County Legislature, 1st District 423 Griffing Avenue, Suite 2 Riverhead, NY 11901 631-852-3200 (Phone) 631-852-3203 (Fax) Al.Krupski@suffolkcountyny.gov To visit Legislator Krupski's website, please click here.

# **Legislator Krupski Teams Up with**

# ▲ New York Blood Center

# Sponsors Local Blood Drive Please Register Today to Donate!

WHEN: Monday, September 26, 2016 WHERE: Cornell Cooperative Extension

TIME: 1-7pm

According to the New York Blood Center, it takes over 2,000 individual blood donations to fill the need of NY's 200 area hospitals and that every three seconds someone in the United States requires a blood transfusion. Each donation is separated into three components, red cells, platelets and plasma, so your donation could potentially help to save three lives.

Regardless of your blood type, if you are in good health, between the ages of 17 (16 with parents' written permission) to 75 (over 75 with a doctor's note), haven't received a new tattoo in the last 12 months and you weigh a

minimum of 110 pounds, you can safely donate blood. If you have questions about your eligibility to donate, please contact the New York Blood Center at 800-688-0900.

Please register today by calling Legislator Krupski's office at 631-852-3200 or email <a href="mailto:gwynn.schroeder@suffolkcountyny.gov">gwynn.schroeder@suffolkcountyny.gov</a>. (Walk-ins are welcome!) In appreciation, you will receive a \$5.00 Dunkin Donut gift card. Thank you!

# Progress Made in Protecting Long Island Waters County Executive Signs Bill to Advance the Use of IA/OWTS



County Executive Steve Bellone and Legislators Krupski and Hahn (seated) at the legislation signing.

County Executive Steve Bellone recently signed into law sanitary code changes which could pave the way for the widespread use of Innovative Advanced Wastewater Onsight Treatment Systems (IA/OWTS).

423 Griffing Avenue, Riverhead

Legislator Krupski has long advocated for the use of advanced wastewater treatment systems, preferable alternatives to costly sewage treatment plants (STPs) that are generally not supported by East End residents. IA/OWTS remove significant amounts of nitrogen, and some systems, vegetated constructed wetlands for example, have the potential to remove other harmful substances from wastewater, like personal care products, cleaning products and medications.

If adequate amounts of nitrogen aren't removed from wastewater,

eutrophication (excessive nutrients in waterbodies) occurs which in turn promotes algal blooms and hypoxia (low dissolved oxygen), threatening plant and animal life and degrading water quality.

"The best way to protect water quality is to preserve farmland and open space," said Legislator Krupski, "but if we can implement the use of IA/OWTS on a wide scale basis, especially in areas close to surface waters, and make it financially feasible for homeowners and businesses to utilize these advanced systems, this is the next best thing."

Legislator Krupski believes the cost should be shared equitably because we all contribute to groundwater and surface water pollution and protecting these resources will benefit all. Legislator Krupski also cautions that the use of these new systems should be used to address existing problems, not to increase the density of new development.

## SCDHS Must Now Notify Municipalities of Sewage Discharges

To better protect public health and inform the public if there is a contamination of a waterbody, a new <u>Local Law</u> sponsored by Legislator Krupski has been adopted which requires the Suffolk County Department of Health Services to notify elected officials in the event of an accidental sewage discharge. Within 12 hours SCDHS must notify the County Executive and those elected officials who represent the district in which the discharge took place, including the appropriate SC Legislator, Town Supervisor and Village Mayor.

#### **PDR Program Strengthened**

Suffolk County's Purchase of Development Rights Program (PDR) for farmland has been strengthened thanks to a <u>Local Law</u> sponsored by Legislator Krupski and adopted unanimously by the Suffolk County Legislature. Previously, farmland could only be considered for development rights purchase twice a year, a delay which in some instances could jeopardize farmland preservation. The new law allows farmland to be considered six times a year, the same opportunity that has been given to those landowners who are interested in selling the county the fee title to their property for parkland or open space purchases.

Through the PDR Program, the landowners sell their rights to develop their property but retain ownership of the land. To date, Legislator Krupski has sponsored legislation to preserve 375 acres of open space and farmland in Brookhaven, Riverhead and Southold, 90 acres of which have been preserved thus far and the remaining acreage is in the pipeline for preservation.



Legislator Krupski participating in the Day in the Life of the Peconic Estuary at Indian Island Suffolk County Park in Riverhead last October. This valuable program teaches local students about this important local resource. Some of the students participating had never been to an East End beach! To learn more about the Peconic Estuary Program, please visit

www.peconicestuary.org



## **Project Bus Stop**



After years of dedication and perseverance, Project Bus Stop, a group of teens affiliated with the First Unitarian Church of Southold, have successfully advocated for the installation of bus shelters at a number of North Fork locations. The teens took on the cause when they repeatedly observed people waiting for the bus in inclement weather without cover.

To date, two new bus shelters have been installed in Mattituck and Cutchogue and an additional two are expected to be installed this fall in Southold and Peconic.

Legislator Krupski is gratified he was able to help the group achieve their goals and assist in coordinating with the NYS DOT and Suffolk County Department of Public Works. "These young people, who despite numerous bureaucratic hurdles, persevered and got the but shelters installed," said Legislator Krupski. "I suspect they will continue to be civically engaged and do great things throughout their lives."

Project Bus Stop's accomplishments were recognized by Suffolk County's Anti-bias Task at a ceremony held at the H. Lee Dennison Building in early June.

# County to Hold Hearings on Proposed Bus Route Cuts

Suffolk County Transit will hold two public hearings on proposed cuts to bus lines:

Thursday, September 8, 2016

3:00 pm – 7:00 pm Riverhead Legislative Auditorium Evans K. Griffing Building 300 Center Drive, Riverhead

Friday, September 9, 2016

3:00 pm – 7:00 pm Hauppauge Legislative Auditorium W.H. Rogers Legislative Building 725 Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown

According to the Department of Public Works, the cuts to the routes are estimated to save Suffolk County approximately \$4 million per year and are expected to affect about 2% of the ridership.

Routes which are being considered for elimination are 1B (Copiague to Lindenhurst), 5A (Port Jefferson to Middle Island), 7D/E (North Shirley, East Yaphank Loop, Mastic, Mastic Beach, Shirley), 10A (Southampton to Sag Harbor, North Haven) 10D/E (Hampton Bays to East Quogue, Hampton Bays Loop), S35 (South Bay Shopping Center to Crown Manor, Lindenhurst), S71 (Shirley to Stony Brook Rail Road), S90 (Center Moriches to Riverhead County Center).

To unsubscribe to Legislator Krupski's newsletter, or to subscribe, send comments or concerns, <u>please</u> click here.

## **Learn How You Can Conserve Water**

Join Suffolk County Legislator Al Krupski, Southold Supervisor Scott Russell, and the Suffolk County Water Authority for an important discussion about water conservation, **Tuesday, September 13 at 7 p.m.** at Southold Town Hall, 53095 Main Road (Route 25), Southold.

Speakers will discuss the many environmental, financial and quality of life reasons why using our precious drinking water supply wisely is so important, as well as letting North Fork residents know what they can do to help. A question and answer session will follow the presentation.

All those who attend will receive a free stainless steel reusable water bottle, courtesy of SCWA.



Legislator Krupski standing, far left, with may LI elected officials

# **United Front on Long Island Sound Dumping**

Elected officials from across Nassau and Suffolk Counties, environmentalists and other stakeholders joined Governor Andrew Cuomo at a recent press conference calling for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to drop their plans to adopt a proposed rule (81 FR 24748) which would designate an area between New London, CT and Fishers Island as a site to dispose of dredge spoil, most of which would originate from Connecticut. Legislator Al Krupski was in attendance.

Since his time as a Southold Town Trustee, Legislator Krupski has called for the cessation of the open water disposal of dredged materials in Long Island Sound and has been active on this issue since joining the Suffolk County Legislature. He has lead the fight against the EPA's current plan, authoring a June 21, 2016 letter to the governor and signed by his 17 colleagues in the Legislature, which called on New York State to "to ensure that every measure is employed by New York State to stop the adoption of this rule."

Governor Cuomo stated the State of New York will sue the EPA if the rule designating the New London site is adopted or if any other additional new sites are designated for open water disposal within Long Island Sound.

#### Goldsmith's Inlet Update

The recent closure of Goldsmith's Inlet sparked renewed concerns about the ongoing impacts on water quality, and the effects on both the ecology of the waterbody and the potential harm to human health. Although it has reopened, there is not sufficient flushing and the risk is ever present that the inlet will once again close up.

Legislator Krupski has written to the Commissioner of Health, outlining the environmental importance of Goldsmith's Inlet and the seriousness of the situation, calling on him to make dredging of the inlet a top priority in the short term. He is also working with DEC, Southold Town and the Suffolk County Department of Public Works to initiate a longer-term dredging plan and has been meeting with community members on an continuing basis.







Photos by Legislator Al Krupski taken after the closure of Goldsmith's Inlet but before it reopened.

#### Roanoke Avenue Road Work Advances

The culmination of a year's work on Roanoke Avenue (CR 73) is coming to an end and paving is expected to be completed by the beginning of the school year. While this may seem like an extreme amount of time, the scope of the project was extensive and covered two 12' travel lanes (north and south bound) with variable shoulder widths spanning approximately 6,700 feet (1.27 miles), starting at Main Street and ending in the vicinity of CR 58, Old Country Road. The average pavement depth is 3"-4" of asphalt over 3"-4" of base course.

Many problems needed to be addressed; the pavement was in poor condition overall, existing drainage systems were deteriorating and inadequately sized, discharge of all untreated stormwater runoff and flooding frequently occurred at Cranberry Street and Southern Parkway due to the convergence of four systems which all discharged to Merritt's Pond via one 30" diameter pipe. Existing curbs and sidewalks were in poor condition and did not meet ADA Standards. Lastly, traffic signal equipment required upgrades.

The key elements and the major objectives of the project were to rehabilitate existing pavement, drainage systems, curbs, and sidewalks on Roanoke Avenue and bring travel lanes to a consistent 11 foot width and to make shoulders a consistent 4 foot width. The county made all sidewalks ADA compliant with 5' minimum width, meeting slope requirements, installing ramps and detectable warnings at intersections, while replacing the curbs. Trees causing heaving and/or safety issues were replaced with new street and wire friendly trees. Attempts will also be made to place new trees on private property if owners are amenable.

In addition, rehabilitating and replacing existing drainage systems and adding leaching basins to reduce flow to outfall was extremely important and took up most of the construction time. A Hydrodynamic Stormwater Treatment System was installed at the Southern Parkway discharge location to treat remaining stormwater flow and permeable concrete gutters will reduce flow to the treatment system and benefit Merritt's Pond immensely.

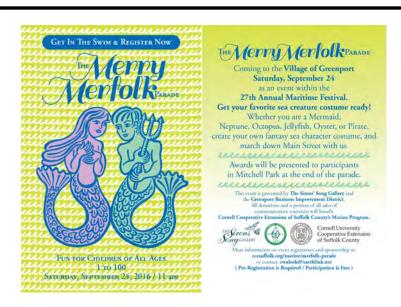
At the intersections of Roanoke Avenue and 2nd and Pulaski Streets, new signal and pedestrian poles were installed, as well as upgraded pedestrian equipment with countdown timers at Roanoke and Railroad Avenues and new pavement markings and signs. The markings will match the existing layout.

Unfortunately, the county had no right of way access to add new turning lanes on Roanoke Avenue. This all was evaluated with the implementation of NYS Complete Streets Guidelines and various advanced signalization technologies.

## **Sharper's Hill**

Development proposals for Sharper's Hill and the adjacent open space and farm land, which have deep historic and cultural significance, may not come to pass if an agreement can be reached between Suffolk County and the developer, who has willingly met with Legislator Krupski, SC Planning Staff, Riverhead Town Officials and concerned citizens to discuss the possible preservation of the property.

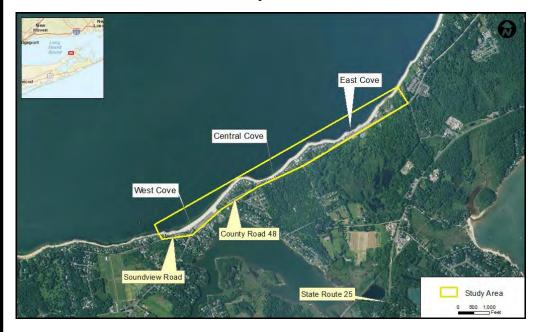
Legislator Krupski sponsored legislation, adopted earlier this year, which initiated the first of many steps in the preservation process. If successful, approximately ten acres of open space which fronts Route 25 in Jamesport will be preserved as a Hamlet Park, and 32 acres of adjacent farmland will be preserved through a development rights purchase.



Join Legislator Al Krupski for the Merry Folk Parade! Come in your most creative Sea Creature Costume for this special event. Legislator Krupski will serve as a judge and help pick the best costume!

#### **Hashamomuck Cove Study**

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (US ACE) released the <u>Draft Coastal Storm Risk Management Draft Integrated Feasibility Report & Environmental Assessment for Hashamomuck Cove</u>. The plan to protect Hashamomuck Cove, Town Beach, 58 residences and two commercial properties calls for a combination of berms, beach renourishment and acquisition of property at a projected cost of \$17,749,000. The study area included West Cove, Central Cove and East Cove as well as portions of CR 48 and Soundview Road.



Although Federal Funds will cover approximately 2/3 of the cost of the project, a non-Federal Partner will be responsible for the remainder. Public access to the beach fill easement areas would be made available for public access as it is a requirement when Federal funds are used.

Hearing dates have not been scheduled and the timeframe for the public comment period is not available, but both will be posted on Legislator Krupski's website when announced. Please click here for a link to the study.

## US ACE Releases Fire Island Inlet to Montauk Point Management Plan

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (US ACE) has released the <u>decision document</u> and the draft environmental review for what it sees as the long-term management plan, referred to as the Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP), to address the increasing threats to Suffolk's southern coastline, inlets, bays and creeks: the New York Combined Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project (FIMP).

According to the <u>Draft Re-evaluation Report with the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)</u> for the proposed Fire Island Inlet to Montauk Point, NY, Coastal Storm Risk Management Project, the TSP includes "a combination of: (1) inlet modifications (continuation of authorized navigation projects, dredging, downdraft placement of dredge, placement of dune and berm, and monitoring); (2) non-structural measures (primarily building retrofits, with limited relocations and buy-outs); (3) breach response for barrier islands; (4) beach and dune fill with nourishment: up to 30 years, approximately every 4 years; (5) sediment management; (6) groin modifications; (7) coastal process features; (8) adaptive management; and (9) integration of local land use regulations and management."

Four public hearings will be held on the 369 page DEIS and are tentatively scheduled for mid to late September in Montauk, Southampton, Patchogue and Babylon/Islip. The dates, times and venues have yet to be announced but will be posted on Legislator Krupski's website when the information becomes available from the US ACE.

The public comment period for the DEIS is open until September 29, but according an US ACE spokesman, it will most likely be extended for two weeks.

Legislator Krupski has been highly critical of the US ACE's recent project in downtown Montauk, which is part of the FIMP and which utilized "geotubes" to armor and harden the shoreline. Legislator Krupski, who was a Southold Town Trustee for two decades and understands coastal dynamics very well, believes shoreline hardening is detrimental to the environment and adjacent properties, causing increased erosion.